

# THE DE LAND NEWS.

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## WHAT LEGISLATURE DID ACCOMPLISH

TALLAHASSEE, June 5.—Like the calm that settles over the Gulf after the summer squall has passed the quiet of 'tween sessions now rests upon the state capitol in Tallahassee. In the governor's office lies a pile of bills—not a very large pile either—which he is patiently wading through with the aid of his secretary. And down in the vaults of the secretary of state are stacked over five hundred would-be laws that failed to pass. The legislature of 1909 has gone down into history.

The session of 1909 was distinctive in many ways. No Florida legislature ever started off so blithely and heaped up such calendars before and few accomplished less in proportion to the number of bills introduced. Yet it has been an important session. Prohibition has been brought as a direct issue before the voters of the commonwealth. Disfranchisement has received its death blow; the primary bill has been passed; no laws really hurtful to the corporations have been passed and none that are hurtful to the people.

And the session has been marked by many dramatic features. The short but sharp fight over prohibition submission amendment, the tiff between the governor and Senator Beard, the fight for disfranchisement made by that senator, the Alexander-Clark and Farris-Hilburn rows in the house, and finally the Jacksonville charter fight—all will hold an indelible place on the page of the history of the session.

### MEN OF THE HOUR.

And it could not be that such a

small, but good if viewed from an impartial standpoint. The most important bills that found their way safely through originated in the senate though two very important measures started in the house. These two are the primary bill and the railroad assessment bill.

Senator McMullen of Hillsboro fathered the resolution in the senate which submits to the ratification of the people the question a constitutional amendment for state-wide prohibition. It was passed after the most spectacular fight of the session. The galleries were crowded by the ranks of the White Ribboners. The senator's mother lay cold in death that morning down in her Pinellas home. But the critical moment had come, his measure was reached and the fight depended upon him. The measure had been as dear to her as to him and knowing that she would prefer it so he stood by the fight and won. It was a fight that won him the applause of his bitterest opponents.

### BUCKMAN'S ABLE SPEECHES.

And it would not be right to refer to that historical fight without giving full credit to Senator Buckman, of Jacksonville, for one of the most able anti-prohibition speeches ever heard in Tallahassee. Fighting against odds he fought ably. And over in the house MacWilliams, of St. Johns, did as well. Hilburn, of Putnam, led the dry forces there.

Representative Cash is a school teacher in Taylor county. He wouldn't win the ribbon at an exhibit of the handsomest men in the house, but fortunately it isn't always the handsomest members that



JAMES W. PERKINS.

James W. Perkins first came to DeLand about 22 years ago, to accept a position in the dry goods department of G. A. Drake & Co.'s store. Later, he acted as deputy sheriff for the late Sheriff Johnson D. Kutz, and leaving this position he entered the law school at Lebanon, Tenn., and graduated therefrom. He was very popular from the time of his arrival in Volusia county, and at the time of the change in politics in 1883 was one of the hardest workers for those who were striving to force a change in county politics. This faction was triumphant, and in the years following Mr. Perkins was appointed solicitor of the Criminal Court of Record, succeeding Dozier Broome. This position he held—for two terms as an appointee and afterwards by primary election.

In 1908 Mr. Perkins announced himself as a candidate for judge, and after a most strenuous and bitter campaign was selected at the primary election of May 19 for appointment to the position for four years. The result of this primary was perhaps as much of a surprise to Mr. Perkins as to anyone else. He carried every precinct in the county except Orono, Bressford and Seabreeze, winning over Isaac A. Stewart, who had been judge of the court since it was first established.

It was passed. And it didn't get to the senate until the night before adjournment. But the rules were waived and it was taken up and passed by a large vote.

Florida will abide by the primary system two years longer. It is rumored that an effort was made a short time ago to really call a convention and establish the old convention system. But it was given up. Many consider the Cash primary bill a good one, but there are others who are prone to cuss out the whole primary system and who say that it will help drive everyone else out of the Democratic primaries. If the governor signs the bill time will tell.

### PLAN OF COMMISSION.

To Davis, of Madison, is due the credit for the idea that the assessment of the railroads and telegraph lines should be made by a commission instead of being left to the comptroller alone as at present. He is allowed to consult with the attorney general and another at present but it is virtually in his hands.

The bill passed the house. But when it went over to the senate and fell into the hands of Senator Flourney, chairman of the committee on finance and taxation, it was destined to be changed. The idea of Representative Davis was to have a board composed of the comptroller, the attorney general and the president of the railroad commission do the assessment work. Mr. Flourney evolved the idea of having five disinterested citizens of the state do the work. He offered a substitute to this effect. It was passed by the senate and on the last day was made a law subject to the approval of the governor by the house.

### GAMBLING BILL.

Much feeling was aroused by the anti-race track gambling bill by

## PANTS SALE

\$2.50 Pants - \$1.85	\$4.00 Pants - \$3.25	\$5.00 Pants - \$4.25	\$6.00 Pants - \$5.00	\$7.00 Pants - \$6.00
\$3.00 Pants - \$2.25	\$4.50 Pants - \$3.75	\$5.50 Pants - \$4.50	\$6.50 Pants - \$5.50	\$7.50 Pants - \$6.50
\$3.50 Pants - \$2.75	\$9.00 SUIT SALE STILL ON			\$8.00 Pants - \$7.00

## FOUNTAIN'S

session could come to a close without bringing to light new characters who will continue in public life and whose influence will bring to bear upon the future of the state in its affairs in the coming years. From out of the west has come Stokes of Pensacola—full of youthful fire and enthusiasm but brainy and steady as the oldest. From the south has come McMullen of Tampa—younger in years than the average senator but full of determination such as shown in his dramatic and winning fight for his prohibition resolution. And there are many others.

Over six hundred and fifty bills were introduced in the house and over five hundred in the senate. It is the biggest crop in history. And the yield has been very, very

have a monopoly on the brains. He is as brainy a man as any on the floor of the house. He didn't shove in with a mass of bills but he introduced one along with a few others that is one of the most important to the state of any adopted. It seeks to relieve certain defects in a much-abused primary system.

### CAMPAIGN PUBLICITY

This measure requires a full publication of all campaign expenses before the primary is held; among other things it disfranchises forever in primaries anyone convicted of bribery in such an election. It cuts out the donation and "handout" business, too, even as regards contributions towards painting the church or putting a new steeple on it. The candidate must hold tight

Mr. Perkins received 644 votes and Mr. Stewart 122. Mr. Perkins was appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate at the session just ended.

Early in his career in DeLand Mr. Perkins became interested in orange grove property, buying a small grove in the Long Hammock. He did well with this property, and has added to his holdings year by year until today he owns nearly 100 acres of bearing orange grove. From this property he now has an income of about \$10,000 a year. He also owns a large number of small tenements in DeLand.

Mr. Perkins' ambition today is to make a judge for all the people—to so conduct the affairs of his court that he will receive the commendation of all law-abiding citizens of the county. In this ambition *The News* wishes him the greatest success, and so long as he does this *The News* will give him its most hearty support.

on the strings of his pocketbook or his name will be kept off the ballot. They won't object, for primaries have got to where they cost candidates small fortunes.

At first it looked like there was to be no change in the primary law. A number of bills were introduced, a feature in many being that they sought to do away with the trou-

lous second primary. They were all boiled down into one bill in the house by Representative Neeley, of Leon, after much trouble and the house proceeded in relentless style to kill the whole bill. Cash, of Taylor, came out before the footlights shortly after. His bill didn't monkey with the second primary but makes other important changes.

Senator Sloan, of Lakeland, it resulted in a practical victory for the race track people. The bill finally passed, but it was amended so that it will not go into effect for two years. Four meets can be held in that time. The legislature of 1911 will be in session thirty days before it goes into effect and that legislature might repeal the law. But it was the best the originators of the bill could do and they accepted it in that form rather than lose it altogether.

### FRANCHISE TAX

Representative Light, the little farmer from down in old Marion county, kicked up the biggest furor of the session of anybody. And it was all a surprise to him too.

(Continued on page eight.)

## Big Closing Sale of Men's Suits

### Men's Suits

\$27.50 SUITS, TO CLOSE OUT AT \$13.50

\$25.00. \$22.50 SUITS, TO CLOSE OUT AT \$11.50

\$20.00. \$18.00 SUITS, TO CLOSE OUT AT \$8.69

### Men's Pants

\$7.50 AND \$7.00 TAILOR MADE PANTS, TO CLOSE \$4.69

\$6.00, \$5.50 AND \$5.00 PANTS, TO CLOSE OUT AT \$3.98

\$3.50 AND \$3.00 PANTS, TO CLOSE OUT \$1.98

\$2.50 AND \$2.00 PANTS, TO CLOSE OUT AT \$1.48

MANY OTHER BAR-GAINS, TO CLOSE OUT, AT 98c

Beginning Saturday, June 12, and Lasting 10 Days Only—10 Days

DeLand DEPARTMENT STORE, F. M. NASH, PROP.